



RI Farm Bureau

NEWSLETTER

Volume 15 Number 4

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ELECTION FOR RIFB PRESIDENT

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RIFB Board of Directors

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Executive Director

Doreen Pagliarini
Administrative Assistant

In November Rhode Island Farm Bureau will be elect a new president. This exciting opportunity provides any interested farmer the chance to participate in ensuring that agriculture will continue to thrive in our state. It will call for a person capable of performing the duties of this office while maintaining their agricultural business. Are you interested?

Requirements for Candidates for President

- Must be a Farm Bureau member in good standing.
- Must be a farmer or have an agricultural background.
- Must be passionate about agriculture.
- Must have leadership qualities.
- Must be comfortable with public speaking.
- Must be able to fulfill the responsibilities of a president.

Duties of Rhode Island Farm Bureau President

Responsibilities to American Farm Bureau:

1. It is important to attend all scheduled meetings.

Regional Responsibilities:

1. Presidents and Administrators Meeting.

State Responsibilities:

1. Attend all RIFB monthly meetings and those called for a special purpose.
2. Be available to testify at the State House for legislation.
3. Attend other meetings in regard to agriculture to keep informed during changing times.
4. Be available to be a speaker as requested.
5. Support the policy and structure of RIFB.

If you are interested in becoming a RIFB presidential candidate please contact a member of the Nominating Committee by August 30th. Jean Helger Bento, Chair 401-473-5935, Wayne Salisbury 401-338-7611, Lyn Spinella 401-265-9421. We look forward to hearing from you.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE FINAL (KEY LEGISLATION)

Bill #	Sponsor	Explanation	Final Outcome	RIFB Position
2643	Sosnowski	Stealing from a farm is a felony.	Law	Pro
7234	Naughton	Ancillary activities on a farm are covered by the Right to Farm Law	Law	Pro
2137 7120	Sosnowski Valencia	Chief of Division of Agriculture reports directly to the Director of DEM instead of	Law	Pro
2065	Bates	Change the “threshold” to an “exemption” on the inheritance tax. 2065 did not pass but this was done in	Law	Pro
7140	Ruggerio	Increase the inheritance tax exemption to \$1.5 million from nearly \$1 million. 7140 did not pass but the budget did	Law	Pro
7133	Gallison (Melo)	This was the budget which included \$3million for farmland.	Law	Pro
7033	Walsh	Mandates composting for facilities that have a lot of food waste.	Law	Pro
7344 2266	Walsh Sosnowski	Started out as farmers could shoot deer with no permit. Compromised with DEM	Passed House Died in Senate	Pro Our Bill
2438	DiPalma	Allow wind turbines on farms.	Died in Committee	Pro
2112	Sosnowski	Allow the sale of wine at	Died in Committee	Pro
2224	Kettle	Allow the sale of raw milk. RIFB opposes because Health Dept. won't come up with rules and Farm Family will not	Died in Committee	Con
7042, 7093 2226	Canario, Hull, Wal- saska	Label GMO Foods	Died in Committee	Con
2110	Hodgson, Valencia	Farmer Brewery, similar to farmer	Died in Committee	Pro
2139	Walaska	Drastically change battery cages for chickens and ban them in the future	Never had a hearing	Willing to compromise.
2632	Miller	Ban Assault Weapons	Died in Committee	Con



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– Jason Schwab, Schwab Dairy

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– Kate Kautz, Farm Credit East



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LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

This year 1,379 bills were introduced in the House and 1,128 were introduced in the Senate. RI Farm Bureau sifted through these bills and tracked 43 of them. Seven bills we supported became law and will help the agriculture community. No bill we opposed became law. No bills were passed that hurt the agriculture community.

See page two for a summary of key legislation.

CHOICE HOTELS TWO STAYS PAYS \$50 GIFT CARD

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After your second
qualifying trip be-
tween now and Au-
gust 20, 2014 , you
will receive Choice
Privileges points to
redeem for a \$50 gift
card. Go to choiceho-
tels.com for details.**

GOOD NEWS AND BAD NEWS FROM GMC

Bad news from GMC.

Last year 46 GMC vehicles were purchased by RI Farm Bureau Members. Only 7 used their Farm Bureau \$500 discount! Granted most of them used another offer of greater value that could not be stacked with the Farm Bureau offer. But 9 Members did not use any offer!



Good News from GMC.

Starting in June, our \$500 discount can be stacked with the "Loyalty Discount" which is the most popular offer GMC owners can use (\$500- \$2,000) If you already own a GMC vehicle GMC gives you the "Loyalty Discount"

Please spread the word!

Discounts on
GMC
Chevy
Buick

GO TO THE WASHINGTON COUNTY FAIR FOR FREE!

We need several volunteers to help us with our booth at the Washington County Fair. Naturally we will pay your way into the fair. The Fair is August 13-

16 and opens at 9:00 am and closes around 11:00 pm. We have shifts of 9-2, 2-6, and 6-11. Call the Farm Bureau office if you can help us.



PHOTO CONTEST BY FARM CREDIT EAST

Have you captured an interesting or unusual moment around the farm, greenhouse or dock that brings a smile to your face? Share it with Farm Credit East by uploading your best shots to FarmCreditEast.com by July 31.

Winning photos will be featured in Farm Credit East's 2015 calendar and also on its website. From all entries, 14 photographs will be selected for a \$100 prize each. Contest rules and an entry form, as well as photos from last year's calendar can be found at FarmCreditEast.com/Calendar .

Send a copy to the RI Farm Bureau so we can put it on our photo wall.

FARM FRESH RHODE ISLAND TO PROCESS AND FREEZE RI GROWN FOR RI SCHOOLS

Farm Fresh Rhode Island's Harvest Kitchen and Farm to School projects are pairing up to pilot fresh-frozen local vegetables for RI school kids. Funded by a USDA Farm to School grant, Farm Fresh RI will purchase RI Grown produce, lightly process and flash freeze it at the RI Training School Harvest Kitchen location, and make it available to RI school food purchasers through Market Mobile.



Container Gardens at Fogarty Elementary

The pilot is a collaborative effort, and enjoys support from the RI Department of Corrections, The RI Department of Administration and Irinox, USA. Project planning began in January 2014, with a RI Farm to School stakeholders meeting and demand surveys engaging interested parties.

Our most recent development is the identification of appropriate freezing equipment. Thanks to the flexibility of Irinox, USA, Harvest Kitchen will rent a MultiFresh Blast Chiller/Shock Freezer through the 2014 harvest season. Harvest Kitchen students and culinary skills teachers will work to develop an efficient process to result in high quality, frozen, RI Grown produce. Successful techniques will be shared with school food service providers and the processing community so that the activities of freezing RI Grown for school kids may continue beyond our pilot. Per the results of our demand survey of RI school food purchasers, we currently plan to focus on frozen half ears of corn, frozen broccoli cuts and frozen pepper strips and dices. Mother Nature and the harvest season will have the final say in what we ultimately process, of course.

The frozen products will be available for sale to RI schools and their distributors through Farm Fresh RI's Market Mobile this autumn.

Thanks to the generous support of the

RI Department of Corrections, the frozen products will be stored at the states central distribution warehouse at the Pastore Center in Cranston. School food purchasers will have the option to pick up the frozen local vegetables when they pick up their USDA commodity foods.

If you are interested in participating in our pilot or have questions about the project, contact Farm Fresh's Kim Clark, Farm to Cafeteria Coordinator at kim-clark@farmfreshri.org

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**Farm
Family**

AN AMERICAN NATIONAL COMPANY

FARM FAMILY INSURANCE LAUNCHES NEW CONTEMPORARY LOGO AND BRAND

New logo and brand reinforces Farm Family and American National's unity and strength

GLENMONT, NY (June 17, 2014) – In 1950, the Farm Family group of insurance companies, headquartered in Glenmont, New York, was founded to provide insurance protection for the underserved needs of farmers, families and businesses in rural areas. Over the decades, Farm Family has earned a solid reputation built on integrity and trust and is the leading insurer of farms in the Northeast and mid-Atlantic regions of the country. In 2001, the company was acquired by American National Insurance Company, an industry leader that ranks among the largest life insurance companies in the United States.



During the past year, Farm Family has been engaged in creating a new corporate brand and logo that elevates the company's corporate identity and supports the unique products and services they offer.

The new logo features the company name in the traditional Farm Family font and color to acknowledge and reinforce the strong history of the company in Northeastern and Great Atlantic agriculture markets. The American National eagle symbol now joins the Farm Family logo to demonstrate the unity and strength of the companies.

In addition to the logo, Farm Family has introduced a new tagline: SMART THINKING, REWARDED®. The motto reflects the company's mission to offer its clients innovative, value-added products and services that meet their unique needs throughout their lifetime.

"Our message is clear – choosing the right insurance is important and that choice should be determined by more than just the quickest quote or the cheapest price. We realize that our customers are smarter than that," said Tim Walsh, president and CEO, Farm Family insurance. "Farm Family offers quality comprehensive coverage for people who want to make an intelligent decision about what best fits their needs. It is for those who recognize the value of reliable service and knowledgeable advice."

For more information about Farm Family, go to www.farmfamily.com and connect at facebook.com/farmfamily and twitter.com/farmfamily.

About Farm Family

Farm Family Casualty Insurance Company, Farm Family Life Insurance Company and United Farm Family Insurance Company, headquartered in Glenmont, N.Y., have been protecting the plans and property of individuals, families and businesses for more than 60 years. The Farm Family group serves 13 northeastern and mid-Atlantic states. Farm Family's agents offer life insurance, annuities, and property and casualty insurance including auto and home insurance, agribusiness insurance and insurance coverage for targeted commercial exposures. American National agents serve individuals, families and business owners.

About American National

American National is a group of companies writing a broad array of insurance products and services. The parent company, American National Insurance Company, headquartered in Galveston, Texas, was founded in 1905. Life insurance and annuity products may be issued through American National Insurance Company, Galveston, Texas; Farm Family Life Insurance Company, Glenmont, New York; or American National Life Insurance Company of New York, Glenmont, New York. Property and casualty products and services may be issued by American National Property And Casualty Company, Springfield, Missouri, American National General Insurance Company, Springfield, Missouri; Pacific Property And Casualty Company (California); AN-PAC Louisiana Insurance Company (Louisiana); American National Lloyds Insurance Company and American National County Mutual Insurance Company (Texas); Farm Family Casualty Insurance Company, Glenmont, New York; or United Farm Family Insurance Company, Glenmont, New York. Not all companies are licensed in all states. Each company has financial responsibility only for the products and services it issues.

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Are you a Leader?

Are you passionate
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Are you comfortable
with public speak-
ing?

If so you should
consider running for
President of RI
Farm Bureau.

See page 1

How has agriculture touched your life today?

FAT HAS BEEN GIVEN A BAD RAP

Since World War II it has been suggested that saturated fat is the main cause of heart disease. It turns out that might not be true. The campaign against fat began when Dr. Ancel Keys, the man who developed K-rations, explained that the reason people were having heart attacks, including the famous heart attack of President Eisenhower, was high levels of cholesterol, a waxy fatlike substance present in some foods as well as naturally occurring in the body, would clog arteries, leading to heart disease. Keys had a solution. Since fat increased LDL cholesterol, he reasoned reducing fat intake would reduce the risk of a heart attack. With nearly one million people per year dropping dead from heart disease we had to try something.

The results are in: the experiment was a failure. We cut fat, but by almost every measure Americans are sicker than ever. The prevalence of Type 2 diabetes increased 166% with 1 in 10

Americans having the disease and more Americans are obese now than when the campaign against fat began. While the rate of heart disease has decreased, it is still the number one killer in America. Why is this so?

Because Americans replaced the fat with over consumption of carbohydrates, sugar and sweeteners, instead of fruits and vegetables, which has caused the increase in diabetes. These carbohydrates are not as satisfying as fat and we tend to be hungry and eat more, thus gaining the weight. A Mediterranean diet has more fat than American diets and those that follow this diet have fewer heart attacks and are not as obese. Fat, satisfies our hunger better than carbs and sugar. Thus it might make sense to replace the carbs and sugar with fat. Just don't go overboard!

The facts in this article were taken from Time Magazine, June, 2014 p. 28 "Don't Blame Fat" by Bryan Walsh